Village of New Milford - Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Timothy H. Owens

IN ATTENDANCE:

Timothy H. Owens, Eileen Owens, Ronald Colvin, Wendy Roop, Deanna Rodgers, Jim Stevens, Adam Bunge, and Jessica Lang. Trustee Theresa Merriman absent.

Wendy Roop initiated the motion to accept the evening's agenda, seconded by Ron Colvin. Motion passed unanimously.

Deanna Rodgers initiated the motion to approve August 12, 2025, board meeting minutes, seconded by Wendy Roop. All present voted unanimously; motion carried. Wendy Roop made a motion to approve the minutes from the special meeting held on August 19, 2025. She requested that the meeting's location, the New Milford Fire District, be specifically included in the official record. The motion was seconded by Trustee Eileen Owens. All present voted unanimously; motion carried. Wendy Roop initiated the motion to approve August 26, 2025, committee meeting minutes, seconded by Ron Colvin. All present voted unanimously; motion carried.

Wendy Roop initiated the motion to approve the August 2025 financial statement, seconded by Deanna Rodgers. All present voted unanimously; motion carried.

Resident Dan Yeruski addressed the board regarding his concerns of the increased traffic on 11th Street due to construction and lack of speed law enforcement as many of the semi-trailers are exceeding the 30-40mph posted speed limits. Mr. Yeruski further explained his own efforts to contact IDOT to request a "no engine breaking" sign and the Illinois State Police District in Pecatonica for assistance but has yet to receive any follow-up. The board discussed requesting additional patrol and speed traps to discourage speeding within the village. President Owens will update Mr. Yeruski when there is new information.

President Owens postponed the trustee appointment discussion until committee. He recommended Austin Odum for a ZBA seat and Eric Jackson for ZBA President. Deanna Rodgers moved to approve these appointments, seconded by Eileen Owens. The motion passed unanimously. President Owens reported that he is still awaiting an invoice from Railside Insurance regarding the previously presented workman's compensation policy. He then informed the board that Trustee Wendy Roop notified him of graffiti at the Victory Park pickleball courts and described ongoing efforts to remove the offensive imagery. Mrs. Roop recommended the installation of dusk-to-dawn lighting above the courts. A quote from Wolf Bros Tree Service for additional tree trimming and tree removal on the east side of Ryberg Road was submitted to the board for review. President Owens requested that trustees visit the site and be prepared to vote on this service at the next committee meeting. A pavilion rental request for Victory Park is pending, with the rental contract currently being completed by Trustee Eileen Owens.

President Owens then expressed concerns regarding a gentleman intending to open a dog grooming business within the strip mall, which may include boarding services prohibited by village ordinance. Dawn Garcia, the business owner, addressed the board to clarify that she does not plan to offer dog boarding; instead, she intends to provide other pet health services

such as dog walking, hiking, in-home pet sitting, and some grooming services. She also expressed hope to collaborate with the existing dog groomer operating in the strip mall.

Clerk Jessica Lang stated that the village's financial documents for the last fiscal year have been submitted to Lauterbach & Amen, LLP for the annual audit.

Engineer Adam Bunge reported that contracts for the 10th Street overlay are ready for signatures. Rock Roads will begin work at the end of September, expecting completion in 10-14 days. Mr. Bunge also inspected a deteriorating inlet on Alamo Drive, recommending its replacement be included with the 10th Street project. Rock Roads was awarded the $8,100 bid for this work. The board approved this recommendation. Mr. Bunge will prepare a change order for the committee to review.

Attorney Jim Stevens notified the board that he has prepared documents for signature in relation to previously agreed resolutions concerning the solar farms. Mr. Stevens stated that the South Pasture solar farm on Ryberg Road requested an extension to complete the project by December 2029 and asked for their special use permit to remain valid while the property continues to operate as a solar farm. An ordinance amending prior agreements to include these requests was drafted, with all other terms of previous agreements unchanged. Mr. Stevens called for a motion to approve the ordinance. Wendy Roop made the motion, seconded by Ron Colvin. All present voted unanimously; motion carried.

Mr. Stevens informed the board that follow-up letters regarding ordinance violations will be sent next week, notifying residents that citations will be issued for unresolved violations effective October 1, 2025.

Deanna Rodgers initiated the motion to pay the bills for the Village in the amount of $98,108.12, seconded by Eileen Owens. All present voted unanimously; motion carried.

Wendy Roop presented the police report from the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department. In August, officers conducted patrols in the Village averaging 1.23 hours per day, which included 14 traffic stops as well as various other calls.

Fire Chief Scott Schaben updated the board regarding activities planned for the upcoming Fire Prevention Week. Comprehensive event details will be made available online through the Fire Department's official Facebook page.

Mr. Stevens notified the board that the village's boundary agreement with the Village of Cherry Valley is set to expire in December 2026 and inquired whether the board would like to consider initiating an extension. President Owens and the board concurred that this matter warrants further examination. Mr. Stevens will proceed to investigate and report his findings to the board.

There being no further business to come before the board, Wendy Roop initiated the motion for adjournment, seconded by Deanna Rodgers. All present voted unanimously; motion carried.

Transcribed 09/10/2025 by Jessica Lang, Clerk.